

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 H-01 NSC-05 CPR-01 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 0251

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TZ, US, PDIP

SUBJECT: US DELEGATION TO TANZANIA FOR FEBRUARY 5 CELEBRATION

REFS: A) DAR ES SALAAM 0135, B) DAR ES SALAAM 0113, C) 76 DAR ES  
SALAAM 4745, D) STATE 013799

1. AS WE COME DOWN TO THE TIME FOR DECISION ON A US DELEGATION FOR THE FEBRUARY 5 CELEBRATIONS IN TANZANIA, AND DETAILS OF TANZANIAN ACTIVITIES AND EXPECTED OTHER FOREIGN REPRESENTATION REMAIN LESS CLEAR THAN WE WOULD LIKE, IT OCCURS TO ME THAT WE MAY NOT HAVE EXPLAINED AS FULLY AS WE SHOULD HAVE OUR REASONS FOR URGING THAT THE US MOUNT A SPECIAL EFFORT, SPECIFICALLY ONE LED BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG, FOR THIS OCCASION. I SHALL TRY TO DO SO NOW.

2. FIRST, WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS IN FACT GOING TO BE A MAJOR TANZANIAN CELEBRATION. THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS BEING GEARED UP FOR IT. FOURTEEN AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE HAVE BEEN INVITED. EIGHT, WE ARE TOLD, HAVE ACCEPTED. TANGOV RELUCTANCE TO IDENTIFY THEM IS NORMAL AND DOES NOT MEAN THEY WILL NOT ATTEND. MOST OTHER NON-AFRICAN COUNTRIES, LIKE US, ARE TRYING TO MAKE UP THEIR MINDS, AND OUR INABILITY AT THE MOMENT TO CITE OTHER SPECIFIC CABINET LEVEL REPRESENTATION DOES NOT MEAN THAT THERE WILL NOT BE ANY. TANGOV HAS CLEARLY INDICATED NOW THAT MAIN CELEBRATION WILL BE IN ZANZIBAR (WITH  
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IMPORTANT PARTY FESTIVITIES IN ARUSHA) AND ITS (AND CONSEQUENTLY OUR) INABILITY PROVIDE EXACT SCENARIO DOES NOT MEAN THINGS WILL NOT BE REASONABLY WELL ORGANIZED. (KISSINGER VISITS LAST YEAR WERE FULL OF LOOSE ENDS UNTIL LAST MINUTE AND THEN SHAPED UP VERY WELL INDEED.)

3. HOWEVER, NEATNESS OF SCENARIO AND CAREFULLY BALANCED LEVEL OF

REPRESENTATION ARE NOT WHAT WE HAVE IN MIND ANYWAY. NEITHER DO WE BELIEVE THAT GREAT IMPORTANCE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE CELEBRATIONS MAY--INDEED, PROBABLY WILL--INCLUDE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF RADICAL, ANTI-IMPERIALIST RHETORIC, PERHAPS INCLUDING SWIPES AT THE US. THE BASIC REASONS FOR THE US TO STEP OUT BRAVELY --AND WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG IF AT ALL POSSIBLE -- ARE THESE:

(A) TIMING IS EXCELLENT. ALL AFRICA IS WATCHING THE NEW US ADMINISTRATION. THE FIRST THING WE NEED TO DO IS DEMONSTRATE TO AFRICA AND TO OUR OWN PEOPLE THAT WE ARE INTERESTED IN AFRICA. OUR POSITION SHOULD PROPERLY BE THAT WE WANT TO GET VIEWS AND ABSORB KNOWLEDGE SO THAT WE CAN MAKE SUBSEQUENT DECISIONS PROMPTLY AND WELL. WE WILL NOT BE PRESSED NOR WILL WE NEED TO UNDERTAKE COMMITMENTS ON THE SPOT.

(B) TANZANIAN FESTIVITIES ARE RADICAL AND REVOLUTIONARY BUT COMPLETELY NATIONALIST AND NON-COMMUNIST IN NATURE. THEY WILL REPRESENT AN OUTPOURING OF SOCIALIST PRIDE IN THIS COUNTRY AND WILL BRING TOGETHER A SPECTRUM OF LIKE-MINDED AFRICANS WHOM WE DO NOT ORDINARILY GET MUCH OF A CHANCE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH IN A MUTUALLY FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE BUT WHO ARE IMPORTANT TO THE FUTURE OF AFRICA AND SPECIFICALLY TO THE OUTCOME OF CURRENT SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

(C) THESE CELEBRATIONS ARE JULIUS NYERERE'S BIG THING. HE IS AN IMPORTANT AND INFLUENTIAL LEADER AND ON BALANCE A CONSTRUCTIVE AND MODERATE ELEMENT IN ALL OF REVOLUTIONARY AFRICA AND MOST SPECIFICALLY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS IN CRITICAL CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE EXPECT THAT APART

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FROM DEMONSTRATING US INTEREST IN HIM AND HIS COUNTRY BY ITS MERE PRESENCE, A PROMINENT US DELEGATION WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK SUBSTANCE PRIVATELY WITH HIM.

4. AT THIS POINT WE DO NOT EXPECT THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG WOULD FIND HIMSELF THE HIGHEST RANKING NON-AFRICAN DELEGATE AT THE CELEBRATIONS, BUT, IF HE SHOULD, SO MUCH THE BETTER. IT WOULD GIVE GREATER ACCESS AND DEMONSTRATE THAT THE US RECOGNIZES NYERERE'S IMPORTANCE AND REALLY DOES CARE ABOUT AFRICA. IF THE SCENARIO EVOLVES IN SUCH A WAY THAT WE CANNOT MANAGE TO GET PART OF THE US DELEGATION TO ARUSHA, IT WILL NOT BE THE END OF THE WORLD. BUT, IF WE CAN, AND EVEN IF AMERICANS TURN OUT TO BE ONE OF THE FEW NON-SOCIALIST PARTY REPRESENTATIVES THERE, WE WILL HAVE MADE CLEAR THAT WE DO NOT TURN OUR BACK ON A VIGOROUS NATIONALIST PARTY MERELY BECAUSE IT IS SOCIALIST. THIS WILL NOT BE MISSED BY AFRICAN EYES.

5. I HOPE THAT, HOWEVER, BELATEDLY, ABOVE WILL MAKE SOMEWHAT CLEARER OUR THINKING ON THIS MATTER. WE REALIZE PROBLEMS OF

MOUNTING AN ENTERPRISE OF THIS KIND AGAINST BACKGROUND OF A FEW  
WEEKS' OLD ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON AND LACK OF CLARITY ON  
DETAILS HERE. WE WILL BE GRATEFUL FOR WHATEVER YOU CAN ARRANGE  
BUT DO HOPE A SPECIAL EFFORT WILL BE MADE.  
SPAIN

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## Message Attributes

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